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WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 25, 1953

I talked to Jim Conant on the telephone last night as I had done previously during the day. He delivered to Adenauer this afternoon a personal letter from the Secretary saying [redacted] the President and the Secretary thought it most important for him to negotiate a Saar settlement with Bidault as soon as the latter was free to do so, and expressing the hope that the Chancellor would make [redacted] substantial concessions, even going beyond what he might consider reasonable, in order to dispose of this contentious question.

Jim Conant telephoned me this morning to say [redacted] the Chancellor would, although somewhat against his better judgment, go to The Hague tonight and remain in case Bidault might eventually arrive. The French Parliamentary situation regarding a vote on foreign policy is so confused that no one can possibly predict whether or not Bidault will attend the Foreign Ministers' EPC meeting at The Hague.

Turner Cameron came to see me this morning. After three years in Yugoslavia, he has been transferred to Indo-China where he will repair after two months of home leave. For the moment he is working here at the Embassy on the proposition of a Five Power conference concerning the Trieste problem.

Mademoiselle de Luart called on me and showed me photographs of the movie she [redacted] made this summer with some friends. It is a 16-minute record somewhat along the lines of James Joyce's "Ulysses" of the thoughts crossing through the mind of a man during a 60-minute period. She thinks this will tie in with her labor union activities. She is really an [redacted] extraordinary young woman.

Bill Tyler came to see me this afternoon. ~~He has just received word that~~ he is to attend the conference at Bermuda with a view to his briefing the foreigners on suitable occasions. No one could be better for [redacted] job.

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Alan Moorhead visited me. He has been commissioned to do an article for "Time" on NATO and wished to check up in addition on the six-nation movements. I had met him several times during the war, [redacted]

Jean Lambert and his father-in-law, Samuel Bronfman, came in. Bronfman is the enormously rich head of [redacted] Distillers-Seagram. He heard I had once been engaged in the same business, but when I disclosed the smallness of the Frank L. Wight Distillery he was rather scornful, I thought, of my experience. One of his daughters has for many years been married to Lambert, an enterprising Frenchman who has a private bank in Paris. A second daughter is about to marry another Frenchman, and the father wanted to be briefed on conditions here, especially in regard to European integration.

Ted Achilles came over late in the afternoon. He was [redacted] indignant because Tommy had, in a talk with Alphand, referred to a conversation between Achilles and De Margerie (reported by the former to Washington). Alphand had scurried over to De Margerie and objected to the one item mentioned by Tommy, apparently telling De Margerie that he had not properly reported the French point of view. As a result, De Margerie jumped on Achilles and Achilles made a further parabola on Tommy and myself. It all arose out of the sharp differences of opinion in the Quai d'Orsay on these European questions and seems to me to be a tempest in a teapot. In any event, I think the ruffled plumage is now smooth.

Meanwhile the French Assembly debate continues on its erratic course. Tonight, unable to agree on a closing resolution, the Government has posed a vote of confidence and the debate will be resumed Friday. This leaves everything in a mess. A French delegation will go tonight to The Hague, but Monsieur Bidault cannot himself attend unless the Friday debate should be successfully concluded.

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